

IN BRONZE AND STONE.
A GRATEFUL COUNTRY HONORS
HER GREAT MEN.

SOME of the Most Noted Statues at the National Capital Briefly Described—American Sculpture of the Present Compared with That of the Past.

(Special Washington Letter.)

The National Capital may well be called the City of S. States. For in no other city of the United States are there gathered such numbers or such costly ones. Here can be seen the flower of American soul, art and courage, extending over the space of a hundred years, and an interesting study can be made of the gradual development of those arts. In every direction one is confronted by the marble or bronze presentation of some soldier or statesman who has passed away, but whose deeds are kept before his countrymen by a grateful government, or by the skillful work of a job through Congress by lobbyists in the interest of the sculptor and founder. Some of the monuments about the city might be truthfully described, "Destined in grateful appreciation and thanks to the services rendered by the lobby and the sculptor's friends."

Perkins' largest collection of statues of Americans in the world can be found in Statuary Hall at the Capitol. It was formerly occupied by the House of Representatives, but was put to its present use when the House extension was completed. The room is ninety-five feet long and sixty feet wide, and is surrounded by a high arched stone gallery supported by twenty-six massive columns. It is not the original hall of Congress in its entirety, for that was partially destroyed when the English captured Washington in 1776. Afterwards it was remodeled by Latrobe, the Capitol architect, and was pronounced "so perfect and so grand that not another hall in the country can compare with it." Its acoustic properties were very strange. A whisper scarcely audible to the ear into which it is breathed, would resound over the entire room. But since it was put to its present use these echoes are not so perceptible, though a whisper can still be heard across the room by persons standing in certain parts of it. When the House removed to its present quarters it was suggested by Senator Merrill, of Vermont, that the old hall be taken for a national gallery of statuary, and that each State should be permitted to send effigies of two of her citizens, in marble or bronze, to be placed permanently there. The suggestion met



PROFESSOR JOSEPH MEYER.

is a curious and unique study in American history. On one side of the chair which Washington is seated is depicted his infant. He holds strangled the serpent while a lesser brother Iphicles lies upon the ground and shrinks from the latter. This is intended to illustrate the relative positions of North and South America during the revolution. On the other side of the chair is a base relief of Phœbus Apollo driving the chariot of the sun around the world—triumphing in steel—allegory that rising sun and the crest of the national arms of the United States. In writing of his work Greenough said: "It is the birth of my thought and I have sacrificed to it the hours of my days and the freshness of my strength; its every lineament has been fashioned with the sweat of my brow and the tears of my eye, and I would rather have its association with my name than for the profound torturing avarey of dreamland."

On the opposite side of the Capitol is the statue of another great Virginian—John Marshall, judicially the first chief justice of the United States. It is of bronze, and was erected in 1881 by the bar of America. Chief Justice Waite delivered the dedicatory address. On the south end of the main staircase leading up to the rotunda stands a group called "Duty very," upon which the sun sets. It consists of two figures, a man and a woman, who are engaged in their work day and night. The man is holding a globe in his hand, and beside him, won't give almost for a skirt, a female figure who is symbolizing the Indian race. Opposite this on the north end is another group in marble called "Civilization." There are five figures, the mother with a child in her arms cradling and on Indian with a tomahawk upreared to strike her down, and a frontiersman, said to represent Paul Revere, stays his hand, while the hunter's dog looks on, surely expectant.

Northeast of the Capitol, in Grove Square, is an equestrian statue of General Nathaniel Greene. The square contains three and one-half acres, and the statue stands in the center on a pedestal thirty feet high and one-half foot high. General Greene is mounted on a black stallion with a plumed mane and tail, and wears a plumed helmet. He is mounted in full armor, and is shown in the act of dismounting. He holds a sword in his right hand, and a pistol in his left. The horse is nearly twenty feet high and weighs 14,000 pounds. The body of the statue was raised off the dome a few days after the 2d of December, 1863, and on the next day all the fortifications of the Goddess was unfurled over the vast hemispherical. When it reached the summit and was securely fastened to the soil, guns were fired on every public building and in the surrounding buildings in and near the city, and a hundred guns on the Virginia hills rang out dirge-toned salutes.

In the Senate wing and at the east stairway is a statue of Benjamin Franklin, a dual figure in marble purchased by the joint committee on the library, and costing \$2,000. At the foot of the opposite stairway is the statue of John Hancock, president of the 1st Congress. Dr. S. one was the sculptor, and it cost \$5,000. On the outside we find



ADMIRAL DUPONT.

statue of Major General James B. McPherson, which was erected by the Society of the Army of the T. messes at a cost of \$28,000. Standing in the direction of the White House we pass through Lafayette Park, a beautiful grove of oaks, in the center of which is Clark Mills' statue of Andrew Jackson. It was erected in 1882, at a cost of \$30,000, and cast of cannon captured by "Old Hickory" in his various campaigns. It stands upon a white marble pedestal, around which are grouped pieces and piles of cannon balls. The gallant soldier is in complete uniform and is mounted upon a rearing horse, poised high in the air when the rest of the horses, the tail being white, are given a start. The first instance of this practice was when the gun carriage was turned out.

In the center of the park, the intersection of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire avenues, is Dupont Circle, in which stands a statue of Admiral DuPont. The square is one of the most beautiful in Washington, and around it are built some of the most pretentious private residences of the capital.

Leaving the northeast and going toward the eastern part of the city we pass the art house, in front of which is a full length statue of Abraham Lincoln, by Lot Flannery. Lincoln is well represented by statues in Washington. It is in the center of Lincoln Square, and is in a bronze group called "Emancipation." Lincoln is represented as standing at a small pedestal holding in his hand the proclamation of emancipation, while the other is extended in a gesture pointing over the crowding form of a negro, whose fetters are broken. The group weighs 3,000 pounds and is twelve feet in height and stands upon a granite base which is ten feet. It was unveiled April 14, 1875, and Fred D. Johnson was the orator of the occasion. The memorial was erected from contributions received in the names of the States—Mississippi contributing being a \$5,000 bill, the first money ever given in freedom by an aged negro woman of Virginia.

W. A. CROFFUT.

PARNELL IN TROUBLE.

The Home Rule Leader Entangled in Cu-pid's Meshes.



MRS. O'SHEA.

It is too bad that the great champion of Ireland's freedom who has made an appeal so spirited to comp the listening ear of the world, and has just beaten the London Times and extorted from them \$20,000 for his cause, could find himself immersed in a net which entangles his friends.

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It is preordained that all who hate Mr. Parnell will think him guilty and that all who like him will think him innocent, but that is a question that can not be settled except by the voice of a British jury. It can not be denied that the case comes up half side, and there is no knowing what the outcome may be.

The theory that Parnell is innocent, and that O'Shea has deliberately sacrificed his wife for the purpose of helping the Tory party, is often propounded to be considered for a moment. But there are other ties incompatible with his innocence, and it is honest, in behalf of all involved that one of these may be established and made clear.

LA GRIPPE IN CONCERT.

"Wife, hats-ho! say?"

"Well, dear—ache!"

"My influenza—ache-to-day."

"I'm trying to make myself better."

"I'll go to the doctor."

"Hats-ho! get ready."

"Aches! Achée!"

"Kiss, kiss, here, Pat!"

"Yes, now, how-howooon!"

"I've got the grippe-pipp!—I'm going away."

"Ach! mat, so hev i-chitt!—I'll travel wid you."

"At the harsc, the shable-chitt better go to bed."

"For the shipes like mad wid the epi-haxoo!"

"Haw-choo! haw-choo!"

"Ooh, pat, achach?"

"See, how? what? you?"

"See Bridget! the biggest old broad! yit—More than a thousand handker' shooz! She's packin' the trunks—cheel aw night! Sough for a drove of elephants—see?"

"Ah—choo!—All right?"

"Achée! Achée!"

"Kiss, kiss, here, Pat!"

"Yes, now, how-howooon!"

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